

PART VI: PLAN MAINTENENCE

PLAN MAINTANENCE PROCEDURE

Monitoring, Evaluating and Updating the Plan

Periodic monitoring and reporting of the Plan is required to ensure that the goals and objectives for the Bear River Region are kept current and that local mitigation efforts are being carried out.

Annual Reporting Procedures

The Plan shall be reviewed annually, as required by the BRAG Governing Board, or as situations dictate such as following a disaster declaration. The second quarter of each year the BRAG Community Development Department Staff will review the plan and ensure the following:

1. The Executive Director and the Governing Board will receive an annual report and/or presentation on the implementation status of the Plan.
2. The report will include an evaluation of the effectiveness and appropriateness of the mitigation actions proposed in the Plan.
3. The report will recommend, as appropriate, any required changes or amendments to the Plan.

If the BRAG Governing Board determines that a modification of the Plan is warranted, the Board may initiate a plan amendment.

Revisions and Updates

Periodic revisions and updates of the Plan are required to ensure that the goals and objectives for the Bear River Region are kept current. More importantly, revisions may be necessary to ensure the Plan is in full compliance with Federal regulations and State statutes. This portion of the Plan outlines the procedures for completing such revisions and updates.

Five (5) Year Plan Review

Contingent on funding, every five years the plan will be reviewed and a complete update will be initiated. All information in the plan will be evaluated for completeness and accuracy based on new information or data sources. New property development activities will be added to the plan and evaluated for impacts. New or improved sources of hazard related data will also be included.

The goals, objectives and mitigation strategies will be readdress and amended as necessary based on new information, additional experience and the implementation progress of the plan. The approach to this plan update effort will be essentially the same as used for the original plan development.

Plan Amendments

Plan amendments will be considered by the BRAG Governing Board during the plan's annual review to take place the second quarter of each year. All affected local jurisdictions (cities, towns and counties) will be required to hold a public hearing and adopt the recommended amendment by resolution prior to consideration by the BRAG board.

IMPLEMENTATION THROUGH EXISTING PROGRAMS

Integration with Local Planning

This plan is only useful to the extent its recommendations and mitigation strategies are integrated into local level decision making, programs, regulations and resource allocation priorities. The jurisdiction's Comprehensive Plan and supporting regulatory ordinances are where many of the plan's recommendations would be implemented locally. Capital improvement planning and programming is where most jurisdictions address the resource allocation and funding issues (this process generally coincides with the jurisdiction's budget approval process).

In the preparation of this plan it soon became very evident that, for most elected and appointed officials in the Bear River District, there is a strong desire to improve the jurisdiction's handling of natural hazard related issues. Many expressed a level of concern together with recognition that their jurisdiction is not appropriately dealing with natural hazard issues and may be unknowingly placing people and property at risk. For many cities and towns, particularly the smaller ones, lack of motivation is not the issue. Knowing what to do and how to move forward is.

Integration of the recommendations of this plan with local level planning and land use decision making will most effectively be accomplished by education, training and effective technical assistance. Enhanced communication and collaboration with other cities, towns and counties in the region will help move the plan into the implementation phase.

BRAG does not have the legal standing or the regulatory authority to require cities, towns or counties to make plan, ordinance or policy changes. At best, BRAG can encourage, educate and suggest changes to local codes, plans, regulations and policies. Given this, it is suggested in this plan that BRAG's ongoing implementation effort would be most useful if focused on building local capacity, educating local officials on what is at stake (both in terms of funding eligibility and concern for citizenry) and providing the sustained technical assistance that is so crucial for the successful implementation of any long term mitigation strategies.

Specifically, BRAG proposes to move the implementation phase forward by (contingent on funding):

- 1) Establishing, coordinating and hosting county hazard mitigation working groups that would meet at least quarterly.

- 2) Develop and host a natural hazard mitigation implementation workshop for the region within three months of local adoption of the plan.
- 3) Provide on-going technical assistance to cities and towns.

Potential Funding Sources

Although all mitigation techniques will likely save money by avoiding losses, many projects are costly to implement. The Bear River jurisdictions will continue to seek outside funding assistance for mitigation projects in both the pre- and post-disaster environment. This portion of the Plan identifies the primary Federal and State grant programs for Bear River jurisdictions to consider, and also briefly discusses local and non-governmental funding sources.

Federal

The following federal grant programs have been identified as funding sources which specifically target hazard mitigation projects:

<p>Title: Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program</p> <p>Agency: Federal Emergency Management Agency</p> <p>Through the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000, Congress approved the creation of a national program to provide a funding mechanism that is not dependent on a Presidential Disaster Declaration. The Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) program provides funding to states and communities for cost-effective hazard mitigation activities that complement a comprehensive mitigation program and reduce injuries, loss of life, and damage and destruction of property.</p> <p>The funding is based upon a 75% Federal share and 25% non-Federal share. The non-Federal match can be fully in-kind or cash, or a combination. Special accommodations will be made for “small and impoverished communities”, who will be eligible for 90% Federal share/10% non-Federal.</p> <p>FEMA provides PDM grants to states that, in turn, can provide sub-grants to local governments for accomplishing the following eligible mitigation activities: State and local hazard mitigation planning, Technical assistance (e.g. risk assessments, project development), Mitigation Projects, Acquisition or relocation of vulnerable properties, Hazard retrofits, Minor structural hazard control or protection projects Community outreach and education (up to 10% of State allocation)</p>

<p>Title: Flood Mitigation Assistance Program</p> <p>Agency: Federal Emergency Management Agency</p> <p>FEMA’s Flood Mitigation Assistance program (FMA) provides funding to assist states and communities in implementing measures to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk of flood damage to buildings, manufactured homes and other structures insurable under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). FMA was created as part of the National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994 (42 USC 4101) with the goal of reducing or eliminating claims under the NFIP.</p> <p>FMA is a pre-disaster grant program, and is available to states on an annual basis. This funding is available for mitigation planning and implementation of mitigation measures only, and is based upon a 75% Federal share/25% non-Federal share. States administer the FMA program and are responsible for selecting projects for funding from the applications submitted by all communities within the state. The state then forwards selected applications to FEMA for an eligibility determination. Although individuals cannot apply directly for FMA funds, their local government may submit an application on their behalf.</p>
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Title: Hazard Mitigation Grant Program

Agency: Federal Emergency Management Agency

The Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) was created in November 1988 through Section 404 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act. The HMGP assists states and local communities in implementing long-term mitigation measures following a Presidential disaster declaration.

To meet these objectives, FEMA can fund up to 75% of the eligible costs of each project. The state or local cost-share match does not need to be cash; in-kind services or materials may also be used. With the passage of the Hazard Mitigation and Relocation Assistance Act of 1993, federal funding under the HMGP is now based on 15% of the federal funds spent on the Public and Individual Assistance programs (minus administrative expenses) for each disaster.

The HMGP can be used to fund projects to protect either public or private property, so long as the projects in question fit within the state and local governments overall mitigation strategy for the disaster area, and comply with program guidelines. Examples of projects that may be funded include the acquisition or relocation of structures from hazard-prone areas, the retrofitting of existing structures to protect them from future damages; and the development of state or local standards designed to protect buildings from future damages.

Eligibility for funding under the HMGP is limited to state and local governments, certain private nonprofit organizations or institutions that serve a public function, Indian tribes and authorized tribal organizations. These organizations must apply for HMPG project funding on behalf of their citizens. In turn, applicants must work through their state, since the state is responsible for setting priorities for funding and administering the program.

Title: Public Assistance (Infrastructure) Program, Section 406

Agency: Federal Emergency Management Agency

FEMA's Public Assistance Program, through Section 406 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, provides funding to local governments following a Presidential Disaster Declaration for mitigation measures in conjunction with the repair of damaged public facilities and infrastructure. The mitigation measures must be related to eligible disaster related damages and must directly reduce the potential for future, similar disaster damages to the eligible facility. These opportunities usually present themselves during the repair/replacement efforts.

Proposed projects must be approved by FEMA prior to funding. They will be evaluated for cost effectiveness, technical feasibility and compliance with statutory, regulatory and executive order requirements. In addition, the evaluation must ensure that the mitigation measures do not negatively impact a facility's operation or risk from another hazard.

Public facilities are operated by state and local governments, Indian tribes or authorized tribal organizations and include:

- *Roads, bridges & culverts
- *Draining & irrigation channels
- *Schools, city halls & other buildings
- *Water, power & sanitary systems
- *Airports & parks

Private nonprofit organizations are groups that own or operate facilities that provide services otherwise performed by a government agency and include, but are not limited to the following:

- *Universities and other schools
- *Hospitals & clinics
- *Volunteer fire & ambulance
- *Power cooperatives & other utilities
- *Custodial care & retirement facilities
- *Museums & community centers

Title: SBA Disaster Assistance Program Agency: US Small Business Administration
The SBA Disaster Assistance Program provides low-interest loans to businesses following a Presidential disaster declaration. The loans target businesses to repair or replace uninsured disaster damages to property owned by the business, including real estate, machinery and equipment, inventory and supplies. Businesses of any size are eligible, along with non-profit organizations.
SBA loans can be utilized by their recipients to incorporate mitigation techniques into the repair and restoration of their business.

Title: Community Development Block Grants Agency: US Department of Housing and Urban Development
The community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program provides grants to local governments for community and economic development projects that primarily benefit low- and moderate-income people. The CDBG program also provides grants for post-disaster hazard mitigation and recovery following a Presidential disaster declaration. Funds can be used for activities such as acquisition, rehabilitation or reconstruction of damaged properties and facilities and for the redevelopment of disaster areas.

Local

Local governments depend upon local property taxes as their primary source of revenue. These taxes are typically used to finance services that must be available and delivered on a routine and regular basis to the general public. If local budgets allow, these funds are used to match Federal or State grant programs when required for large-scale projects.

Non-Governmental

Another potential source of revenue for implementing local mitigation projects are monetary contributions from non-governmental organizations, such as private sector companies, churches, charities, community relief funds, the Red Cross, hospitals, Land Trusts and other non-profit organizations.

CONTINUED PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

During interim periods between the five year re-write, efforts will be continued to encourage and facilitate public involvement and input. The plan will be available for public view and comment at local libraries and city offices, the BRAG office, and on the internet (<http://www.brag.dst.ut.us/develop-hazard%20mit.htm>). Comments will always be received whether orally, written or by e-mail.

All ongoing workshops and trainings will be open to the public and appropriately noticed. Ongoing press releases and interviews will help disseminate information to the general public and encourage participation.

As implementation of the mitigation strategies continues in each local jurisdiction, the primary means of public involvement will be the jurisdiction's own public comment and hearing process. State law as it applies to municipalities and counties requires this as a minimum for many of the proposed implementation measures. Effort will be made to encourage cities, towns and counties to go beyond the minimum required to receive public input and engage stakeholders.

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